

ETHYLENE DIBROMIDE

UN 1605

Shipping Name: Ethylene dibromide

Other Names: Bromofume EDB

1,2-Dibromoethane Ethylene bromide

Dibromoethane Unifume

Dowfume



Hazards:

- Very irritating to skin, eyes, nose and lungs; prolonged contact with skin will cause burns
- Fire fighting gear (including SCBA) does not provide adequate protection. If exposure occurs, remove and isolate gear immediately and thoroughly decontaminate personnel
- Container may BLEVE when exposed to fire
- Vapors are heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas
- Combustion products include toxic hydrogen bromide
- Corrosive to some plastics and rubber

Awareness and Operational Level Training Response:

- Stay upwind and uphill
- Determine the extent of the problem
- Isolate the area of release or fire and deny entry
- For container exposed to fire evacuate the area in all directions because of the risk of BLEVE
- Evacuate or shelter in place the immediate area and downwind for a large release
- Notify local health and fire officials and pollution control agencies
- If material or contaminated runoff enters waterways, notify downstream users of potentially contaminated water

Description:

- Colorless heavy liquid
- Sweet odor
- Sinks in water and is insoluble in water
- Nonflammable
- Vapors are heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas
- Freezes at 50° F

Operational Level Training Response:

RELEASE, NO FIRE:

- Stop the release if it can be done safely from a distance
- Prevent material and runoff from entering sewers and waterways if it can be done safely well ahead of the release
- Use large amounts of water to disperse vapors contain rupoff
- Consider the application of foam to spilled liquid to control vapors
- Ventilate confined area if it can be done without placing personnel at risk

FIRE:

- Material does not burn; fight surrounding fire with an agent appropriate for the burning material
- Cool exposed containers with large quantities of water from unattended equipment or remove intact containers if it can be done safely
- If cooling streams are ineffective (venting sound increases in volume and pitch, tank discolors or shows any signs of expanding), withdraw immediately to a secure location

First Aid:

- Provide Basic Life Support/CPR as needed
- Decontaminate the victim as follows:
 - ♦ Inhalation remove the victim to fresh air and give oxygen if available
 - ♦ Skin remove and isolate contaminated clothing (including shoes) and wash skin with soap and large volumes of water for 15 minutes
 - ♦ Eye rinse eyes with large volumes of water or saline for 15 minutes
 - ♦ Swallowed do not make the victim vomit
- Seek medical attention
- For skin burns decontaminate with water and apply a clean dry dressing

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